CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT

CD/1373
27 December 1995

ENGLISH
Original: SPANISH

NOTE VERBALE DATED 21 DECEMBER 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF CHILE TO THE SECRETARIAT OF THE CONFERENCE ON DISARMAMENT FORWARDING A COPY OF A STATEMENT MADE BY THE GOVERNMENT OF CHILE IN CONNECTION WITH THE RECENT SIGNING OF THE TREATY ON THE SOUTHEAST ASIA NUCLEAR-WEAPON-FREE ZONE

The Permanent Mission of Chile to the United Nations Office and other international organizations in Geneva presents its compliments to the secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament and has the honour to forward the attached copy of the statement made by the Government of Chile in connection with the recent signing of the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear-weapon-free Zone.

The Permanent Mission of Chile requests the secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament to arrange for the statement to be distributed as an official document of the Conference on Disarmament.

GE.95-64792 (E)

STATEMENT

The Government of Chile has learned that on 15 December 1995 the member States of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) signed the Treaty on the Southeast Asia Nuclear-weapon-free Zone.

The Government of Chile welcomes and congratulates the ASEAN member countries on this important agreement, which contributes to the dynamic approach displayed by the international community in favour of non-proliferation and highlights the untimeliness of the action taken by some countries in continuing to maintain nuclear programmes.

The Government of Chile promotes a policy encouraging the establishment of denuclearized zones, and views such zones as a fundamental element of a regime of non-proliferation and prohibition. In this context the treaty signed by ASEAN promotes the extension and integration of denuclearized zones, such as those already established under the Treaty of Tlatelolco, the Antarctic, Rarotonga, Pelindaba and the zone in the South Atlantic.

The Government of Chile regards it as particularly important that the nuclear Powers should unite their political will with that of the non-nuclear States which have already expressed it, sign the protocols to the above-mentioned instruments and firmly endorse the Asian initiative.

Santiago, December 1995